

161834

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

MEMORANDUM

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

TO Reed W. Neuman  
FROM Steve A. Woods  
SUBJECT Notes and Interviews in Cahokia (Dead Creek)

October 14, 1980

The following 4 pages consist of a statement from Pete Lauman on the death of his dog and names of other people who he believed would have helpful information about Dead Creek.

1. Dorothy Lindley
2. Gary Miller
3. Rick McDonald
4. Charles McDonald

I got this information about noon September 26, 1980 from Pete Lauman and Charles McDonald.

006600

Pete Lauman Statement - Dead Dog in Dead Creek

Memorial Day weekend Pete Lauman went camping with friends. He left his two dogs with his next door neighbor. When he came home on Monday evening, Pete and his friends sat around drinking. One of the dogs was barking for a long time. About 5 p.m. Pete went to see what the dog was barking at. The male terrier was biting at the ground, which was smouldering. He had a reddish orange dust all over him. About 9 or 10 p.m. Pete gave him a bath. The dog appeared to be O.K. The next morning about 10:30 a.m. Pete went to feed the dogs. Only the female appeared. Pete looked for the male and found him lying beside the doghouse, dead. On the side of the dog and on its belly were bare spots, like mange. The inside of the dog's mouth was white. A friend put the dog in a plastic bag and put him in the garbage. A couple of weeks later the female terrier started showing bare patches of skin on her legs and a discoloration on her paws, looking kind of raw. Pete put her on a leash and it cleared right up. During this time the Fire Department had been coming out and trying to extinguish the fire which kept popping up in the ditch. They used water and sand. Pete stated that he never sees any animals in the area of the ditch (birds, rabbits, etc.). He also said that although the pit has been there for several years there were no fish in it, but a lot of black frogs. Pete lives next to the ditch, first house on the left (north side) on Judith Lane. Pete purchased property about 2 years ago.

009606

Pete Lauman  
105 Judith Lane  
Cahokia, Illinois 62206

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Dorothy Lindley  
1159 Smith Street  
Cahokia Heights

Lived in first or second house from Dead Creek  
(south side). Moved 10 years ago. Pete Lauman said she  
may be helpful. She has a son named Sam.

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Gary Miller  
Cahokia - somewhere

28 years old

Works for G.A.F. floor covering in St. Louis.  
His mother owns 107 Judith Lane. His girlfriend rents it.  
The girlfriend drives a gold Firebird. Gary has lived in  
this area all his life. Information - Pete Lauman.

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3rd house on left

Rick McDonald  
109 Judith Lane  
Cahokia, Illinois 62206

Phone: 332-7857

Volunteer fireman, works for Monsanto. He was in-  
volved in putting out a lot of the fires from the ditch (Dead  
Creek). He has lived in the area all of his life. I talked  
to his wife; ~~he~~ wasn't home. She asked about a second secret  
list of chemicals not made public by E.P.A. I said I knew  
nothing about it.

1698-0  
6697

Charles McDonald  
111 Judith Lane  
Cahokia, Illinois 62206

Phone: 337-5573

Parents of Rick, lived on Judith Lane 30 years.  
Mr. McDonald is 62 years old and has worked for Monsanto since June 30, 1942, directly after his medical discharge from the service. Charles was born and raised in East St. Louis. He said they used to go swimming in the pit holes dug by Leo Sauget.

In 1942 Chemical Warfare Service (C.W.S.) owned the plant and it was under the supervision of an Army Colonel, but the work was done by Monsanto employees. Monsanto purchased the plant from the Federal Government in the late forties, 10¢ on a dollar.

Charles said there were five different departments or jobs involved with making the chemicals. The jobs were bid out to employees by seniority. They had 9 reactors and used big vessels to bring the chemicals to a specific gravity. The chemicals were code named. One of the chemicals was CC-2. It had sulfuric acid and chlorine in it. C.W.S. had a warehouse and some of the finished products were stored there in 100 lb. bags (powder type chemicals). The majority of chemicals were transported by tank and box cars. Trucking was not used much back then.

He said at one time residue and chemicals were flushed into the sewer system (benzofluoride). He said that during the forties they started dumping regularly at Leo Sauget's dump. He said also that dumping there were:

Lue Bright Company (Mobil Oil)  
Lewin Metal (now Cerro Copper)  
Darling Fertilizer - out of business?  
C.W.S.  
Monsanto  
American Zinc (now Amax) - purchased  
10 years ago

The dump ran onto what is now Cerro Copper property and underneath City Hall. He said some days at work they would see Leo Sauget's dump on fire and assume he was burning off part of it so he could dump more. McDonald said it was standard procedure to haul all types of refuse, old chemicals and chemical residue to the Sauget dump daily. He said sometimes the chemicals were mixed with the refuse from the plant and sometimes it was in 55 gallon drums full of PCB's.

60609  
60609

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Cahokia, Illinois 62206

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008701

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008792



## OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

MEMORANDUM[REDACTED]  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

TO Reed W. Neuman  
FROM Stephen A. Woods  
SUBJECT Cahokia Investigation

October 10, 1980

September 26, 1980

11:30 a.m.

Locate and Talk to Volunteer Fireman Gene Britt

Gene Britt lives 1 1/2 blocks south of City Hall and police station on Grand Rue which turns into Main Street. He works at McDonnell Douglas Aircraft straight days and today a double shift. I talked to his roommate at the fire station - he said to call Sunday, September 28, 1980, about 10 a.m. - best time to reach him.

618/332-6859

SW  
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